

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Mark S. ABAD *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/696,664

Filed: October 25, 2000

For: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants



Confirmation No.: 5102

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Michael L. Born

Atty. Docket: 16517.316

**Express Abandonment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(a)**

Mail Stop Express Abandonment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**COPY**

Sir:

Applicants request that U.S. Application Serial No. 09/696,664 be expressly abandoned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(a) upon entry of the Amendment filed January 6, 2006.

Applicants note that a continuation application based on the above-identified application was filed on January 12, 2006.

Should the Commissioner require additional information, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below. The undersigned is an attorney of record and therefore has authority to expressly abandon the above-captioned U.S. application.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Marsh, Reg. No. 41,408  
Arnold & Porter LLP  
555 Twelfth Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004  
Tel: 202-942-5000  
Fax: 202-942-5999

Filed: January 17, 2006

Correspondence Address:  
MONSANTO COMPANY  
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.  
Mailzone E2NA  
St. Louis MO 63167  
(314) 694-3602 telephone  
(314) 694-1671 facsimile

I hereby certify that this transmittal and the attached Express Abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(a) are being facsimile transmitted to the BPAI (attention Dianne Maggard) via facsimile number 571-273-0299.

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

January 17, 2006  
Date